

May

Magic Lantern Society

NEWS 2018



LOOK for those Buttons and roll-over effects

Help Spot Perform His Trick!

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Select the Correct Way that Will Make Spot Jump



Convention 2018 Victoria BC



Next month "Highlights of the
2018 convention in Victoria BC"

*If you attended the convention please
share your summation, favorite part, or
educational highlight for the June E-pub
"Highlights of the 2018 convention in Victoria BC"*

Email Larry by May25
designerlc@comcast.net

Online Collection of Lantern Catalogues

From: Dellmann, S. (Sarah)

S.Dellmann@uu.nl

Dear David and colleagues,

Magic Lantern and Lantern Slide Catalogues available online

The “Magic Lantern and Lantern Slide Catalog Collection” was launched in August 2016 on the Media History Digital Library and is accessible via <http://mediahistoryproject.org/magiclantern/>.

To date, 60 catalogues from 6 countries are available online, from a very short leaflet of 2 pages to substantial catalogues of more than 400 pages. Media History Digital Library is a dedicated and enthusiastic partner, which promotes sustainable and long-term preservation of digital copies of print materials and public access. On their platform, digital catalogues can be accessed free of charge in various ways, without user accounts or paywalls. MHDL is part of The Internet Archive, the not-for-profit organization behind <https://archive.org/>

The collection was initiated as part of the collaborative research project A Million Pictures: Magic Lantern Slide Heritage as Artefacts in the Common European History of Learning (<http://uu.nl/a-million-pictures>), which closes in May. Additions to the collection are very much welcomed even after then.



<http://mediahistoryproject.org/magiclantern/>

How to Contribute?

If you have material which you would like to publish on the Media History Digital Library, you can contact me until 25 May 2018 and, afterwards, the MHDL team via <http://mediahistoryproject.org/about.html>. Catalogues in all languages and of all periods are welcome.

1. If you already scanned the catalogue, you can send me the file no later than 25 May 2018. I will transform it so that it is fit for presentation on MHDL: S.dellmann@uu.nl
2. If you spot digital catalogues on the web, send me the link so we can add it to the list of digital catalogues in the Lucerna Magic Lantern Webresource (go to <https://slides.uni-trier.de/text/text-search.php> and search for “catalogues” with the option “only show texts with an online digital copy”)
3. If you want to scan material yourself, contact MHDL for instructions. It makes it easier if you save every single page in a single file and group the files into a folder. Please scan files in minimum 300 dpi and .tiff format as this works

best for the character recognition software that will enable full-text search.

4. If you use the online collection of catalogues and make fascinating discoveries, why not write an article for the Magic Lantern Gazette, for example?

If you like to learn more about ways to exploring the collection, you can download the article “Exploring Magic Lantern Catalogues Online” which I wrote for the member’s journal of the European MLS, The Magic Lantern, 2016. Issue 8, pp. 6–7. The article is available here:

<https://dspace.library.uu.nl/handle/1874/343129>

A big thank you goes to all collectors who made their material available for scanning, the team behind Media History Digital Library: Eric Hoyt, Derek Long, David Pierce and JJ Bersch as well as Liselotte Westerterp for her wonderful work on checking the digital files!

Best wishes,
Sarah

Dr. Sarah Dellmann
Project “A Million Pictures: Magic Lantern Slide Heritage as Artefacts in the Common European History of Learning” | Department of Media and Culture Studies | Utrecht University | Muntstraat 2A, room T1.12 | 3512 EV Utrecht | The Netherlands | s.dellmann@uu.nl | phone: ++31 (0)30 253 6366 | <http://www.uu.nl/a-million-pictures> <http://www.uu.nl/hum/staff/SDellmann>

PHANTASMAGORIA

an MFA exhibit, designed by Dick, featuring a “chapter”
from his collection

From Patti Bellinger

Dear Friends,

Thank you to all of you, our friends, who came to Dick’s memorial, contributed to My Life My Choice, cooked meals, sat shiva with our family and continue to find ways to honor Dick’s crazy, glorious life and to comfort me.

I wanted to let you know that an exhibit representing a small but incredibly vibrant portion of Dick’s collection has just opened at Boston’s Museum of Fine Arts.

Dick worked with brilliant curator and friend Ben Weiss to design the exhibit and the end result is spectacular.

“Phantasmagoria” refers to a genre of visual entertainment designed to shock and scare the audience, rather like early horror shows. Dick especially delighted in this part of his collection

From Larry Rakow

In coordination with the Phantasmagoria Show from Dick Balzer’s collection, currently on view through the end of May at the Museum of Fine Arts in Boston (www.mfa.org/exhibitions/phantasmagoria), Dick’s wife, Patti Bellinger, was asked for archival footage of Dick and the collection. Talent and showmanship run in the family and Dick’s son, Matthew (a noted and soon-to-be even better-known filmmaker) produced a splendid remembrance of our former colleague and past President.

I vaguely remembered having some old VHS tapes that might feature Dick and after a prolonged search unearthed two low-quality tapes from the 1984 Cleveland Magic Lantern Convention. There were lots of scenes of Dick emceeing the event and...despite poor cinematography and even

and gave many a magic lantern show featuring some of the glass slides in the exhibit.

The MFA has gone to great pains to capture the theatrical flair of the material, so while the exhibit includes some of his finest prints and antique books (as well a stunning Goya from the museum), the “show” begins with a fantastic animation of a magic lantern slide show dramatically projected in a darkened room lined with velvet curtains, complete with 19c sound effects!

Our oldest son Matthew, a filmmaker, was invited to create a short film about Dick and his collection for



worse sound...I sent them off to Patti and Matthew.

I’m happy to report that there are a number of sequences from those tapes that made the final cut (along with Dick’s interview with Joe Franklin and segments from Dick’s last magic lantern show). It’s a great and moving tribute to a friend who helped make the Magic Lantern Society of the US and Canada the organization it is today.

the exhibit. Matt’s film is moving and insightful ... and any of you nostalgic for or who missed the days of Dick with a mustache are in for a treat!

Dick would have loved the exhibit and it was appropriately mobbed last Saturday, during the MFA’s Late Nights at the Museum.

So please do stop by the MFA to see Dick’s inspired, final work.

Phantasmagoria is based on the Richard Balzer Collection and runs until 28 May in the Henry and Lois Foster Gallery (158). More information at: www.mfa.org/exhibitions/phantasmagoria.

With love, Patti



You can access Matthew’s film at <https://vimeo.com/123642701> Password: balzer

In addition, the unedited VHS tapes include a complete magic lantern presentation by founder Joe Koch and a VERY early Joseph Boggs Beale lantern show by Terry and Debbie Borton. It might be worth digitizing these two tapes for the Society archives!

Unknown Item

From Kimberley Thorne

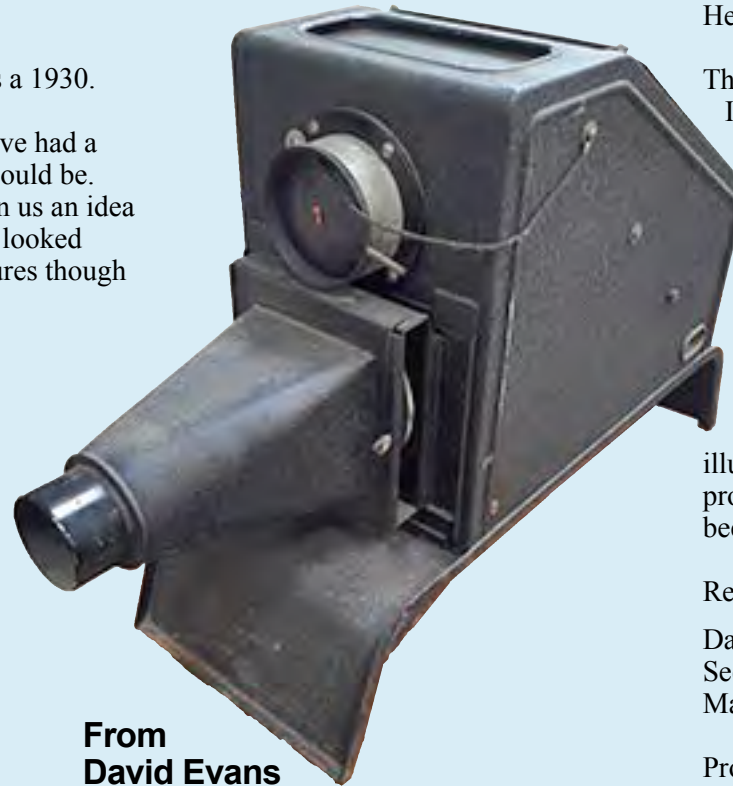
kthorne21@hotmail.com

Hi I have an item I'm unsure about. I think its a 1930.

I work for a Norfolk charity in the UK and have had a strange item donated to us an unsure what it could be. Since messaging yesterday someone has given us an idea what it is on our Facebook page but I haven't looked further into that yet. Will send you some pictures though and see what you think.

Thanks Kimberley

Thank you for your fast reply. Yes it has its original bulb and also an original one in a box. Very pretty bulbs. Not quite sure what we will do with it as doesn't have its power lead so assume it would need to be converted somehow. Thanks again for your fast reply.



From David Evans

Hi Kimberley

A 1930 what?

Can you send me a picture of it?

David Evans

Hello Kimberley

That is generally known as an epidiascope. It can project both transparencies, such as magic lantern slides, using the lower lens, or opaque items, such as post cards, using the upper one. 1930 would be about right. The maker, at least of the upper lens, is Ed Liesegang of Dusseldorf, a high quality lens maker and famous name as far as German projectors go. Not of huge commercial value, and if you are going to use it, I'd recommend fitting it with the latest LED illuminant. The original lamp bulb was probably at least 500 Watts and would have been fearsomely hot!

Regards

David Evans

Secretary-Treasurer

Magic Lantern Society of US & Canada

Probably just a standard 3-core 230 volt lead connected to the lamp socket, unless it has a power switch mounted somewhere on the unit, which it probably doesn't. Any electrician or electrical engineer should be able to do it for you. Put a 5-amp fuse in the plug.

Good luck!

David Evans

dwinwoodevans@aol.com

From Deborah Walker

dlwalker16@gmail.com

I have a framed group of magic lantern slides that I acquired in the late 80s at an auction. I just found them so unique and beautiful. I was wondering if I were to send photos, if you could tell me your opinion as to if they are private "photos" of an engaged couple/wedding, or something from a movie. I have always been curious...

Much thanks David. I appreciate your feedback and expertise...

I'm sorry to say there is nothing visible. If they were disassembled, perhaps beneath. I'm attaching just a phone pic of what it looks like from the back...

~Deborah



Magic Lantern Slides

From David Evans

Hello Deborah

Well, they are very high quality photographs and nicely hand tinted. Rather an expensive production for a private session, I would have thought. They just could be from a song slide set, but there doesn't seem to be much of a story about them. Is there any information on the slide masks, such as a slide maker or trade mark? Any marks, numbers etc might provide a clue.

Regards

David Evans

I see what you mean - they seem to have been assembled together rather resembling a window. A pity. They should be stored in the dark, as continual exposure to light will bleach out all the colour eventually. There does not appear to be any sign of a slide maker, so I am guessing these were privately made, but by a very competent photographer.

David Evans





From Linda Jennings

lindarj180@gmail.com

Hi, I have recently become the education coordinator for Friends of Hearthside in Lincoln, RI. On site we have a one room schoolhouse. A school set of magic lantern slides in a beautiful oak cabinet and a carbon arc projector has been donated to us. I am wondering if there might be a member of your society who would be able to give us information about showing these slides and perhaps give a presentation to our members.

Linda Jennings
508.245.7970

Thanks so much for responding! I'm sure most places in New England wouldn't be too far! No, I would not try to operate the projector, and I am hoping to convert it so we can view the slides. I do not have a booklet and I think the previous owner sold some of the slides. But we are thrilled to have what we do. Thanks for putting my request into your newsletter.

Linda Jennings

Slide Demonstrations

From David Evans

Hi Linda

Thank you for your enquiry - great to have that material in your classroom! The oak cabinet will, I assume, contain a set of Keystone slides, which were supplied to the majority of schools back around 1900 or so. They came with a small card for each slide with notes about the image for the teacher's use. Really sophisticated versions came with a set of stereoscopic cards with duplicate images for the students to use at the same time. There were several versions of Keystone sets at various price levels. Do you have the index book with yours?

Good to have the lantern too, but I certainly would not attempt to use the carbon arc! Apart from being potentially dangerous from the fire point of view, difficult to use and dubious electrically, they emit noxious gases! Best to fit it up with a modern electric illuminant, such as a quartz halogen lamp or LED.

We can put your request into our monthly E-Publication. I'm not sure if we have a member in RI but we certainly have members within a reasonable distance and it is quite possible that one of them could help you.

Best of luck with it.

Hi Linda

You are most welcome.

I have the complete list for the 1922 Keystone 600 slide set (600 slides) which I could photocopy for you if it would help. Let me have a mailing address if so. We won't publish it!

Regards David Evans

Exhibit of Interest to Camera Collectors & History Buffs

From Bob Peters

b.c.peters@comcast.net>

<https://www.tacomahistory.org/exhibit-shutterbugs>

Exhibit at Tacoma Historical Society
Museum

9th & Pacific, Tacoma

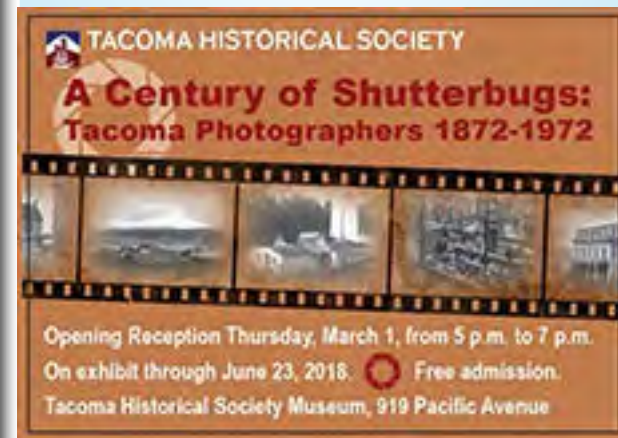
A Century of Shutterbugs: Tacoma
Photographers 1872-1972

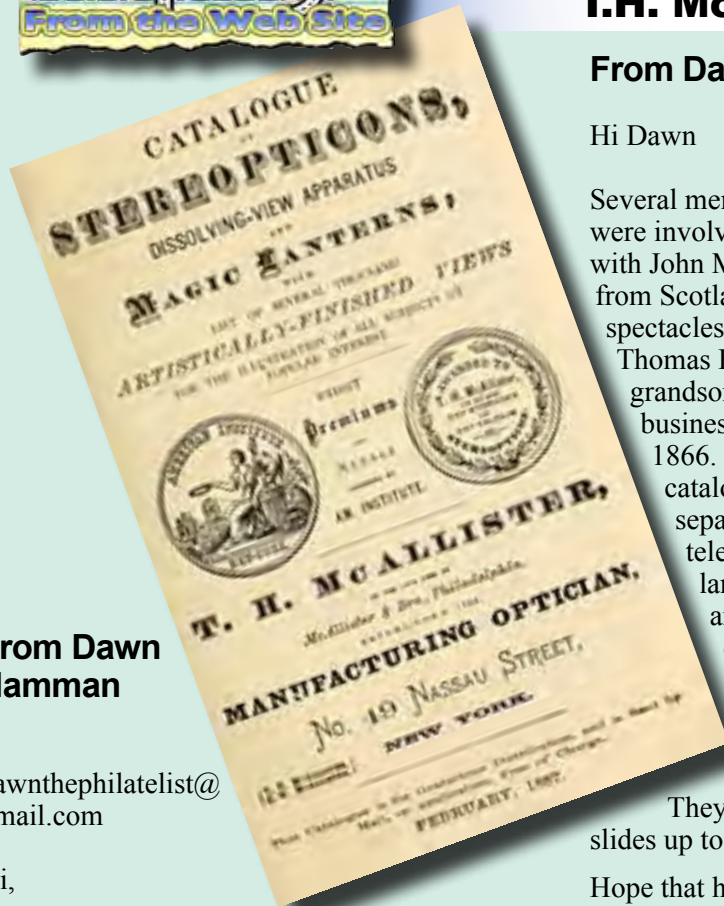
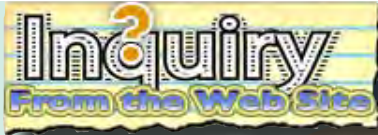
On exhibit through June 23 2018

Hours: 11:00 a.m. -- 4:00 PM, Wed
through Sat.

Free Admission

Developed by Ron Karabaich & Dr.
Caroline Denyer Gallacci (deceased)





T.H. McAllister

From David Evans

Hi Dawn

Several members of the McAllister family were involved in optical goods, starting with John McAllister, who arrived in US from Scotland in 1775 and later supplied spectacles to Pres Thomas Jefferson.

Thomas H McAllister, one of John's grandsons, opened an optical supply business at 49 Nassau St, New York, in 1866. By the 1880s he had a 136 page catalogue of lanterns and slides with separate catalogues for microscopes, telescopes etc. The firm supplied lantern slides from about 1875 and were agents for York & Son of London. The firm continued under C W McAllister, son of Thomas, who died in 1898. They expanded into cinematograph apparatus.

They continued to supply lantern slides up to about 1942.

Hope that helps a bit.

Thank you for contacting us.

Regards

David Evans

From Dawn Hamman
dawnthephilatelist@gmail.com

Exactly what I needed. Thank you!

You are welcome! Glad it was useful.

David Evans

From Dawn Hamman

dawnthephilatelist@gmail.com

Hi,

Can you tell me when T.H. McAllister was in business making magic lantern slides? I am a philatelist, working on an exhibit on bananas. I have a slide showing a banana grove in Florida.

Dawn Hamman

Professor Huhtamo's Cabinet of Media Archaeology.

Part 2: The Peep Media



From Kentwood Wells

Link to excellent Erkki Huhtamo film on peep media.

Prof. Erkki Huhtamo published his second episode in his series 'Cabinet of Media Archaeology' on YouTube.

This time about Peep Media.
Featuring a most familiar Peepshow ...

Watch and enjoy part two, 'The Peep Media'.

<https://youtu.be/CRb8Ius0e6A>

A Thank You from Museo del Precinema

From Museo del Precinema

info@minicizotti.it

To: MLS Secretary Treasurer

secretary-treasurer@magiclanternsociety.org

Sent: Mon, Apr 9, 2018 6:47 am

Dear David Evans,
Thank you for publishing our invitation on the
MLS E-pub.

Our Anniversary party went very well. We
have gathered at the museum with lot of
friends, pre-cinema and cinema enthusiasts
that supported us during the first twenty years.
We send you some pictures of the event.
See you soon at the next meeting!

Warm regards
Laura Minici Zotti

Museo del PRECINEMA
Collezione Minici Zotti
www.minicizotti.it Facebook
Prato della Valle 1/A, Padova
tel. +39 049 8763838



From David Evans

Dear Laura

Glad to hear that your party went well! We
are always pleased to publish any news you
may have in our E-Pub. We'll put some of
your pictures in the next one!

Haven't seen you for a while now. I did
wonder if you would be at the British
Convention last April. We were, and had a
good time there.

Kind regards





From Robert Talbert

rob@roberttalbert.com

Hi Society Member,
I have a Magic Lantern with slides that has been in my family for many generations. I would like to gift it to your society or some organization/university or individual who could take care of it for many more generations. I don't have any children and I don't want this to just get sold at a garage sale. You could auction it at your next convention if you wish.

Includes:

Lantern with wooden base, chimney and lens,
Oil lamp with globe (globe is partially broken),
Slide holder (metal)

12 slides (10 with red rim and 2 with only 2 images), Wooden box with sliding wooden lid.
Much printing is still on the box.

The slides look like Ernst Plank from what I can tell on ebay.

Thanks

Rob Talbert

rob@roberttalbert.com

Sent: Tue, Apr 24, 2018 6:57 pm

Hi Dave,

Thanks for getting back to me. Nice to know the Magic Lantern will be taken care of and loved.

I live in Orange County in CA. It is in Southern California. South of Los Angeles and North of San Diego.

If you could find some one near me that I could drop it off at their home or work, that would save me from packing it. Seems like a lot could break if it was not pack carefully

Magic Lantern



From David Evans

Hi Robert

That is a very generous offer - thank you! Could you send a picture or two of it and we could include it in our next E-Publication, which goes to all our members? Could you also give me a note of your location (not your address necessarily) as we may have someone local to you who would like it.

The Society does not have a collection or a museum display, but would be pleased to accept it on the basis you suggest - to be auctioned at our next Convention perhaps. We generally offer to pay shipping costs of such kind donations.

Looks like a nice little Ernst Plank lantern and great that it has the original box, which is actually rarer than the lantern.

As you say, packing would need care!

We can put it in our next E-Publication and hope that a member in the CA area may be in touch with you.

Regards and thanks again.

David Evans

From Kentwood Wells



<https://olh.openlibhums.org/articles/10.16995/olh.275/>

**Remaking Collections
Heritage in the Limelight,
a Collection in Progress: Uncovering,
Connecting, Researching and Animating
Australia's Magic Lantern Past**
Authors: Martyn Jolly,
Elisa deCourcy

Abstract

**Recent Developments in Archival
Theory and Scholarship**

**Magic Lantern Culture and the
Digital Space**

**Information Architecture, Com-
patibility and Navigation in Large
Magic Lantern Data Sets**

**The Generous Interface and
Experimenting with Creating a
Dynamic Magic Lantern Resource**

Conclusion and Future Directions

Competing Interests

References

**Sunbonnet Sue and I
Want My Man**



<https://graphicarts.princeton.edu/2017/10/04/sunbonnet-sue-and-i-want-my-man/>



Thanks to a generous donation from David S. Brooke, director emeritus of the Clark Art Institute, the Graphic Arts Collection has acquired a new group of magic lantern slides. Among them are an almost complete set of "Sunbonnet Sue," presumably images to accompany the song of that title, music by Gus Edwards (1879-1945) and lyrics by Will D. Cobb (1876-1930), published in 1908 by Gus Edwards Music Publishing Company.

**Magic Lantern and Slide
Collection**

From Sharon Mastrianni Kumiszczka
sharonmk3@verizon.net

Greetings,
I am interested to know if your group purchases items. We have many items for sale from our family estate.
In our collection are four antique Magic Lantern Projectors and thousands of glass Lantern Slides still in their original wooden library drawers (missing cabinet). The slides have not been inventoried, however, they appear to be focused on New York Geography and History, perhaps from the Keystone View Company.
We are located in the Capital District area of New York. I can be reached at 518-355-3420.
I look forward to hearing from your Society.
Thank You, Sharon

From David Evans

Hello Sharon

As a Society, we do not generally purchase collections, as we do not have premises for display of such items. However, we have members that do purchase, so we could add your items to our next monthly E-Publication, which goes to all our members. If you could let me have a few pictures of the lanterns and a few of the slides, this would probably help. Keystone supplied slide sets (often their 600 series - 600 slides with accompanying notes for class study) to the majority of schools in US, so they are not generally rare, as there are so many of them around. Having the original cabinet for them would have been an advantage.

Thank you for contacting us.

David Evans

A Big Thank You to the following:

Patti Bellinger
Sarah Dellmann
Dawn Hamman
Linda Jennings
Sharon Mastrianni Kumiszczka
Bob Peters
Museo del Precinema
Larry Rakow
Robert Talbert
Kimberley Thorne
Deborah Walker
Kentwood Wells

contributing to this months issue.

Now it's your turn to share!

Do you have a favorite site or a collection of images you would like to share with the rest of the society?

E-mail Larry

Welcome New Members

Lenny Lipton

8642 Allenwood Road
Los Angeles
CA 90046

Ph: (415) 279-7736

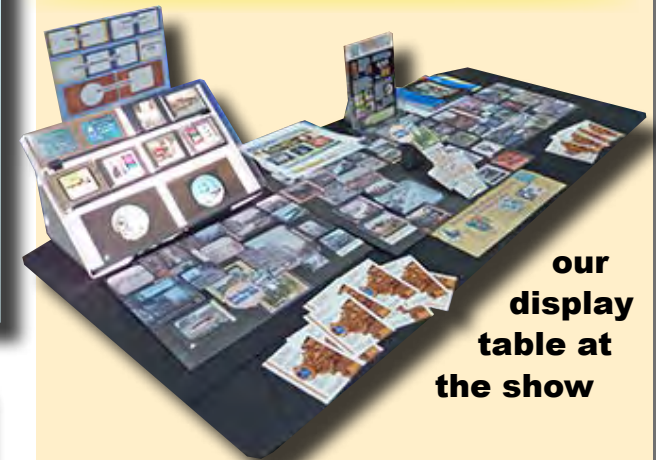
E: lipton3d@gmail.com

Inventor.

Interested in everything to do with
magic lanterns!



**Group NW Represents
Society at Puget Sound
Photographic Collector
Society Annual Sale and
Show in Kent, WA
April 14, 2018**



- ◆ great crowd this year and many found out about the magic lantern
- ◆ many learned about the magic lantern and the lantern slide images of the northwest

